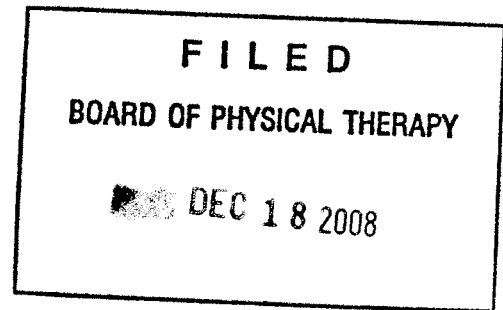


ANNE MILGRAM
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY
Division of Law
124 Halsey Street, Fifth Floor
Post Office Box 45029
Newark, New Jersey 07101
Attorney for the State Board of
Physical Therapy Examiners



By: Carmen A. Rodriguez
Deputy Attorney General
(973) 648-3696

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

_____	:	
IN THE MATTER OF	:	<u>Administrative Action</u>
	:	
	:	
KAREN LAFFERTY, P.T.	:	
License NO:40QA00975700	:	CONSENT ORDER
	:	
LICENSED TO PRACTICE	:	
PHYSICAL THERAPY IN	:	
THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	
_____	:	

This matter came before the New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") upon the Board's random audit of licensed physical therapists and physical therapist assistants pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:39A-9.4(d) who submitted license renewal applications to engage in the practice of physical therapy for the 2008-2010 biennial renewal period.

The renewal applications submitted by licensed physical therapists and physical therapist assistants included an acknowledgment regarding whether or not the licensees had completed thirty (30) continuing education credits during the period from February 1, 2006 through January 31, 2008 as required for the 2008-2010 biennial license renewal period pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:9-37.18(a)10 and N.J.A.C. 13:39A-9.1 et. seq.

In response to the Board's audit letter, Karen Lafferty, P.T. (hereinafter referred to as the "Respondent") submitted documentation indicating the completion of a course sponsored by the American Heart Association entitled "BLS for Healthcare Providers," taken on July 7, 2007 for two (2) continuing education credits. In correspondence dated May 7, 2008, the respondent states that she was under the impression that the course entitled "BLS for Healthcare Providers" was worth four (4) credits. The respondent further stated that given her high degree of contact with patients with cardiac conditions, she feels that this course was exceedingly valuable.

Based upon all the available information reviewed, the Board has found that the respondent has completed twenty eight (28) of the required continuing education credits. The Respondent's conduct in failing to obtain thirty (30) continuing education credits in the period from February 1, 2006 through January 31, 2008 establishes a basis for disciplinary action as the

Respondent did not meet the requirements for renewal of her license to practice physical therapy as she failed to obtain the requisite thirty (30) continuing education credits within the two years preceding the renewal period as required by N.J.S.A. 45:9-37.34(d) and N.J.A.C. 13:39A-9.1 et. seq.

It appearing that the respondent desires to resolve this matter without further proceedings and waiving any right to a hearing, and the respondent acknowledging and not contesting the findings of fact and conclusion of law made by the Board; and the Board having been satisfied that the within resolution adequately protects the public health, safety and welfare; and for good cause shown:

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ON THIS 18th DAY OF, December 2008

ORDERED that:

1. The Respondent's license to practice physical therapy, renewed on February 1, 2008 and in active status, will remain active on the condition that the Respondent submits documentation that she has satisfactorily completed an additional two (2) continuing education credits as required by N.J.S.A. 45:9-37.34(d) and N.J.A.C. 13:39A-9.1 et. seq. within sixty days (60) of the filing date of this order. Respondent may submit satisfactory proof of completion of continuing education courses

relating to physical therapy which were not pre-approved by the Board for credit if the continuing education courses met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:39A-9.3(a) and the provider meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:39A-9.6. Failure to comply with this condition within the stated time period will result in the automatic and immediate suspension of the Respondent's license to practice physical therapy in New Jersey without further order until such time as respondent submits satisfactory proof of completion of all required credits.

2. The two (2) continuing education credits taken as part of this action shall not qualify to fulfill the mandatory continuing education requirements for the 2010-2012 renewal period pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:39A-9.2(d).

3. Respondent is cautioned in the future to obtain the requisite continuing education courses within the preceding renewal period as required by N.J.S.A. 45:9-37.34(d) and N.J.A.C. 13:39A-9.1 et. seq. and to carefully and truthfully complete all renewal applications

4. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of **\$250.00** for her failure to obtain the thirty (30) continuing education credits within the preceding biennial licensure renewal period.

5. Payment shall be made by certified check or money order immediately upon accepting and signing of this Consent

Order and sent to the attention of Lisa Petrowski, to the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, P.O. Box 42014, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

6. Failure on the part of the respondent to pay the civil penalty timely or to comply with any of the terms of this Consent Order constitutes a violation of the Order, proof of which would constitute grounds for further disciplinary action by the Board.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD
OF PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

By: *Laura E. Wilk* PT DPT 400900560100
~~Nancy Kirsch, P.T., Ph.D., D.P.T.~~
Chair *Karen W. K.* P.T. (P)

I have read and understand the within
Consent Order and agree to be bound
by its terms. Consent is hereby given
to the Board to enter this Order.

Karen Lafferty
Karen Lafferty, P.T.

DATED: